

## Crop Pollination Survey

Return to:  
Virginia Dept. of Agr. & Cons. Serv.  
P.O. Box 1163  
Richmond, VA 23218  
FAX: 804-371-7793

1. In which County/City is your farm located?
2. Do you rent, own beehives, or otherwise use honey bees to pollinate your crop?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

**If the answer to question 2 is "NO", skip to question 24 on page 4.**

3. How many acres of your farmland require honeybee pollination?
4. What crop(s) do you raise that benefit from honeybee pollination (i.e. apples, peaches, cantaloupe, watermelon, strawberries, cotton, green beans)? Please, list all relevant crops.
5. What is your annual production for the crop(s) listed in Question 4 (i.e. bushels per acre)?
6. How many hives per acre are used in pollinating your crop(s) (list hive/acre for each crop)?
7. Who determines the location for placing hives within or around the crop(s)?  
☐ Farmer or farm employee  
☐ Beekeeper  
☐ Mutual decision
8. Where do you obtain honeybees for pollination purposes?  
☐ Rent from beekeeper  
☐ Loan or other no fee agreement with beekeeper  
☐ Own hives
9. What is the origin of the beehives used for crop pollination on your farm?  
☐ Local (personal hives, local beekeeper, or permanently placed on farm)  
☐ In-State, but not locally  
☐ Out-of-State (specify state, if known: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Unknown
10. Are you able to find a beekeeper to provide hives to pollinate your crop?  
☐ Yes  
☐ Yes, but insufficient number of hives  
☐ Most of the time  
☐ No

11. Do you have liability insurance specifically for injury from insect stings to farm workers or visitors?

☐ Yes

☐ No

12. Are you satisfied with the pollination activity or strength of the hives used in the past (i.e. number of bees observed on the crop or frames of bees)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you answered "NO" to question 12, please explain the reason for your answer.

13. Is the quality of your crop better (i.e. fewer culls) as a result of using honey bee pollination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unknown

If you answered "NO" to question 13, please explain the reason for your answer.

14. Has your crop production (i.e. bushels per acre) improved as a result of honey bee pollination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unknown

If you answered "NO" to question 14, please explain the reason for your answer.

15. Do you know if the hives were inspected or certified for health or pollination strength?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If your answer to question 15 is "YES", who performed the inspection or certification?

☐ Farmer or farm employee

☐ Another beekeeper

☐ State apiary inspector

☐ Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Unknown

If "NO", is this a service that might be beneficial to your farm operation?

☐ Yes

☐ No

16. Are you generally satisfied with work performed by the beekeeper(s) providing hives?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If you answered "NO" to question 16, please explain the reason for your answer.

17. What type of agreement do you have with the beekeeper for pollination services?

- ☐ Written
- ☐ Verbal
- ☐ No formal contract agreement

18. What type of compensation or other exchange is involved in your pollination agreement with the beekeeper?

- ☐ Monetary payment to beekeeper
- ☐ Barter, produce to beekeeper
- ☐ In-kind, all honey to beekeeper
- ☐ Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ No payment or compensation

**If you do not pay for the hives or otherwise compensate a beekeeper for pollination services skip to question 22.**

19. What fee do you pay per hive (i.e. dollars per hive, pounds of produce) for pollination services (include rates and type of crop for each crop)?

20. Over the past 5 years has your cost of renting hives:

- ☐ Increased
- ☐ Stayed about the same
- ☐ Decreased

21. With regard to any benefit resulting from honey bee pollination of your crop(s) is the rent fee:

- ☐ A bargain
- ☐ About right
- ☐ Too expensive

22. Is your crop(s) surveyed during bloom to determine the density and type of bees and other pollinators present?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

23. Would a regional or statewide list of beekeepers offering pollination services be of benefit to your farming operation?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If your answer to question 23 is “YES”, which format is preferred?

- ☐ Printed listing
- ☐ Internet listing
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

24. How important is honey bee pollination to the success of agriculture and the environment?

- ☐ Highly important
- ☐ Moderately important
- ☐ Not important at all

25. What is your main source of information for crop pollination?

- ☐ Beekeeper
- ☐ Cooperative Extension Office/Agent
- ☐ Field Day Demonstrations
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Trade Publication
- ☐ University/College Classes
- ☐ Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

26. If offered, would you likely attend demonstrations or workshops on crop pollination in your area?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

27. Do you use an insect pollinator other than honey bees to pollinate your crop?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If “YES”, which insect pollinator do you use?

- ☐ Bumble bees
- ☐ Mason bees
- ☐ Orchard bees
- ☐ Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

28. If you do not use honey bees or other insect pollinators on your crops, what is the reason?

- ☐ No perceived need or benefit
- ☐ Cannot locate beekeeper or other supplier of pollinators
- ☐ Too expensive
- ☐ Additional work required
- ☐ Health and Safety concerns
- ☐ Other, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

*In the remaining space and any additional pages, please, provide comments or suggestions for programs or services that might aid farmers and beekeepers in improving crop pollination.*